

WEEKLY NEWS

Thursday, December 25, 2008

45p where purchased

We wish all our readers and advertisers a Merry Christmas

Villagers rallying to help blaze victim

BY Jo Deeks

Email: editorial@haverhillweeklynews.co.uk

VILLAGERS are rallying round a pensioner who escaped with her life but lost her home and almost all of her possessions when her thatched cottage was devastated by fire.

Enid Rodgers, 75, was woken by her smoke detector's alarm just before 4am on Sunday morning as a fierce blaze took hold of her 300-year-old home in Church Road, Withersfield.

A total of 15 fire engines and more than 70 firefighters fought the blaze for about four hours before they were able to get it under control.

Mrs Rodgers, who suffered minor burns and smoke inhalation but no serious injuries, was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Mrs Rodgers had been due to spend Christmas Day with her friend Celia Hall and her family, who also live in Church Road.

Mrs Hall said she and other friends were doing everything they could to help her and make sure



■ DESTROYED . . . the thatched cottage which was engulfed by fire in the early hours of Sunday morning.

Picture: David Johnson 527859.

she had somewhere to stay.

Mrs Hall said: "We were not aware that there had been a major fire in the village until 7.30am because our house faces the other way.

"We found out we had no power and went outside to get a camping stove and found fire engines all up the road. Enid had some minor burns, but we don't really know how she

is yet.

"She was due to come to us for Christmas Day anyway and all her friends are trying to sort things out for her.

"Because it was an old thatch she had the fire service out to do a check in August and they put new alarms in for her. Some of the same firemen came out to tackle the fire."

Sue Hamilton, who lives

just opposite Mrs Rodgers, said they had been woken at around 4am by the fire and saw the road full of firefighters.

Mrs Hamilton said: "The fire service were brilliant and managed to stop it spreading to the neighbouring houses.

"I think they managed to get a bit of furniture out, but she has lost practically everything. It is a very supportive

village and she has a lot of friends.

"Everyone is rallying round to help her and make sure she has some clothes to wear.

"She is a very independent lady and she was out carol singing with us recently and looking forward to Christmas.

"It is just tragic and has left everyone in the village reeling."

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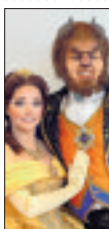
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Lions raise £200 for hospice appeal

BY Jo Deeks

Email: editorial@haverhillweeklynews.co.uk

A CLUB with a small but dedicated band of members has handed more than £200 to our *Weekly News* St Nicholas Hospice at Home Appeal and is still raising more cash.

Haverhill Lions Club president Len Russell and past president Jim Murphy, handed over the cash to Ian Norris, fundraiser for St Nicholas Hospice.

The appeal, which has reached £30,000 of its £40,000 target, will help pay for in-home hospice services for patients in and around Haverhill, saving them the 40-mile round trip to the Bury St Edmunds hospice.

Part of the Lions' cash was raised from a stall that the Lions held on Haverhill Market Square on World Sight Day, when they asked shoppers to cover a picture of a lion with coins in support of our appeal and Lions World Sight charities.

Town mayor Les Ager also joined in the event by walking down the High Street blindfolded to show how difficult blindness can make every day life.

At present, the club



■ DEDICATED . . . St Nicholas Hospice fundraiser Ian Norris, second from right, accepts the cheque for our Hospice at Home appeal from, from left, Jim Murphy, Lions president Len Russell and Gwen Murphy.

Picture: Keith Jones 525095.

has draws to win chocolate Santa's in several premises in the town and some of that cash will also come to the appeal.

Mr Norris said: "I am so pleased that The Lions are supporting the appeal. They have long been great supporters of St Nicholas Hospice Care, and nationwide the Lions do so much to support the work of the hospice movement. I am extremely grateful for their kind generosity."

Jim Murphy said although it was a small

club, events including barbecues were organised throughout the year to support national Lions efforts like the campaign to combat River Blindness and fund glaucoma operations in developing countries, as well as worthwhile local causes.

Jim said: "The Appeal is a good cause and I imagine that is the same reason why so many other groups have supported it. It is something that is for Haverhill and in support of Haverhill people and we like to

support local things as much as we possibly can. I feel the people of Haverhill are quite generous in supporting a good cause."

Haverhill Lions Club was formed 27 years ago and has 15 members.

Len Russell became president for the seventh time this year and Haverhill member Derek Maguire and his wife Pam will both take up roles within the East Anglian Lions district organisation this year.

Anyone interested in joining the club can call Jim on (01440) 712155.

How can you help?

WE CANNOT reach our target without your help – so the *Weekly News* wants to hear from anyone who is organising fundraising discos, barbecues, dances or other events to boost the hospice appeal.

Tell us what you are planning and we will help publicise your event to make sure it is a success and raises as much money as possible.

If you already have an event organised, why not pledge all or part of the proceeds to the appeal and benefit from the extra publicity to help a really good cause.

A special bank account has been set up at Barclay's Bank. Cash or cheques can be paid in directly to the St Nicholas Hospice at Home Appeal, sort code 201612, account number 80981842.

An on-line donations page has also been created at www.justgiving.com/haverhillweeklynews, which also gives details of how to donate by text, and you can donate by phone on (01284) 715582, at the hospice shop in High Street, Haverhill, or the *Weekly News* office in Queen Street, Haverhill.



Childminders' party bounces kids into Christmas



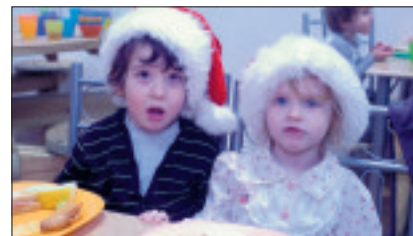
■ PARTY TIME . . . above, parents and children at the party. Right, Kody Power and Nyah Anderson.

Pictures: Keith Jones 527112/3.

A BOUNCING good time was had by tiny tots enjoying themselves at the Haverhill Childminders group Christmas party. A total of 33 little ones aged between one and four years attended the party, which was held at the Play Daze soft play centre in Linton. The children, who are all cared for by members of the group, bounced around to their heart's content on the equipment, then enjoyed party food and received a present before they left.

Tina Try, one of the organisers, said the party was a great success. She said: "They had a great time and totally wore themselves out. As soon as they got into the car they were completely zonked out."

The Childminder's group meets at the Cartwheels Children's Centre in Greenfields Way on Tuesdays and at the On-Track office on Wednesdays. Anyone interested in childcare or joining the group can contact Tina on (01440) 708322.



Surgery gets visit from MP

MP Richard Spring visited Wickhambrook GP Surgery to discuss a possible threat to the service it provides to the local community.

Mr Spring met practice manager, Mrs Libby Hoffman and the partners to discuss a number of issues, including the Pharmacy White Paper which potentially spells the end for many dispensing doctors, who for many years have provided a vital service in rural communities where a community pharmacy is unavailable.

Mr Spring said: "Rural GP surgeries are a vital part of our communities.

"It is essential that the doctors, nurses, and practice staff are able to continue with this invaluable part of our health service.

"There have been many changes to GP services and funding in recent years. Naturally some of these bring concern to patients.

"I am anxious to ensure that I am on hand to lend support and advice to practices which have concerns about any proposal which will affect their ability to serve the local community."

'Kings' vote for best school act

A NEW slant on the nativity was brought to life by pupils at Westfield Primary School in their performance of *The Kings' Command*.

Jill Lightfoot, deputy head at the Haverhill school wrote the script, which featured every one of the Westfield Wonders, from nursery through to Year 4.

The story was about the Three Kings who wanted to put on a Royal Command Performance and went in search of suitable acts.

Each class performed their act, including Christmas keep fit, Away

in a Manger performed in sign language, with instrumental accompaniment and a nursery/reception class version of *Strictly Come Dancing* – complete with scores from the kings as judges.

Westfield Wonder Brass played *Jingle Bells* on their brass instruments.

The act the kings voted as the best was the nativity scene, performed by the Year 1 children.

Rose Campbell, head teacher, said: "Just over 200 parents, and family, watched the play over three separate



■ NATIVITY . . . above, some of the students dressed in their costumes. Below, Mia Robinson and Zaeem Bhagaloo enjoy the dancing. Pictures: Keith Jones 527132/ 1.

performances and enjoyed home-made mince pies and a cuppa' afterwards."

She added: "All the children joined in with singing a variety of songs and a good time was had by all."



■ FESTIVE . . . above, Kirt Robinson. Left, Joshua Walker. 52712 9/7.



Plan to axe trees

PLANS to cut down 50 trees within the conservation area at Clare have been sent to St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

The application by John Laws, warden at Clare Castle Country Park off Maltings Lane, is to fell four ash trees, 35 sycamore trees, 11 elm trees and one hawthorn tree which form a line of trees along the boundary of Keepers Cottage. This would leave the stumps to regenerate and be managed as a boundary hedge in the future.

Ex-mayor co-opted

FORMER town mayor Mary Martin has been co-opted on to Haverhill Town Council.

Cllr Martin has filled one of two vacant seats on the council after two members were disqualified for failing to attend enough meetings.

Only one candidate was nominated for the other seat, Steven Bowes of Recreation Road, Haverhill, who will also be co-opted without an election unless he withdraws his name in the next two weeks.

Barn conversion

PLANS to change a barn to form an extension to an existing home at The Cottage, Rowans House, Calford Green, Kedington, have been submitted to St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

The plans include a glazed screen to the front, roof lights to front and rear, re-cladding with weatherboarding, a glazed door, ground floor and first floor windows and a single storey extension to the front.

Call for review of boundaries

HAVERHILL Town Council is calling for a review of local boundaries before major housing development goes ahead to make sure that it is all encompassed within the town rather than surrounding villages.

Haverhill Town Council is asking St Edmundsbury Borough Council to carry out a community governance review of the boundaries around the town as soon as is practically possible.

A report to town councillors pointed out that all of the proposed strategic housing sites in the local development framework – which could bring up to 3,000 new homes to the town over the next 20 years – are either wholly or mainly outside the existing town council

BY Jo Deeks

Email: editorial@haverhillweeklynews.co.uk

boundary.

Town clerk Gordon Mussett said councillors wanted to see changes made as soon as possible to avoid issues arising once the development went ahead.

St Edmundsbury is the principal authority responsible for reviewing such boundaries and government guidance says such reviews should be made where major housing developments are to be made across existing boundaries.

The guidance says: "Over time communities may expand with new housing developments.

"This can often led to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across boundaries resulting in people being in different

parishes from their neighbours."

Mr Mussett said: "Town councillors have been aware of anomalies for some time such as at the top of Wrattling Road where homes are in Little Wrattling and others are in Withersfield.

"Rather than wait, so that all the parish councils have to deal with issues and complaints that arise with the developments, it makes sense to change the boundaries so that the developers are dealing with the same authority."

The borough council is being asked to conduct and implement the findings of a community governance review to expand the boundaries of Haverhill Town Council to include the areas of proposed expansion, before planning approval is granted for the sites.



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Teenager's helpful work as a volunteer is rewarded

BY Jo Deeks

Email: editorial@haverhillweeklynews.co.uk

SCHOOLGIRL Tochim Eduputa was just 12 when her family moved from Nigeria to Haverhill to join her mother who had a nursing job at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge.

Tragically Tochim's mother became ill and died not long after the family moved to England, but the 16 year old bravely continued to make a new life for herself in her adopted home and has just received an award for her work as a volunteer.

Tochim was presented with a certificate of recognition for 50 hours of work she has completed as a volunteer at the Haverhill Volunteer Centre, by Sue Woolmer, western area youth volunteer adviser for Young Suffolk and a part of the national V Involved initiative.

Elaine Hewes, volunteer co-ordinator for the Haverhill Centre, said Tochim, whose father Don also serves on their management committee, had made a great contribution as a volunteer.



HONOURED
...16-year-old Tochim Eduputa, centre, collects her award for 50 hours volunteering from Sue Woolmer, youth volunteer adviser, right, and Elaine Hewes, volunteer co-ordinator from the volunteer centre.

Picture: Keith Jones 527126.



Tochim adapted well to life in England and enjoyed her studies at Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College, before moving on to study A-levels at King Edwards school in Bury St Edmunds. She hopes to continue studying at university.

She first became a volunteer after meeting Elaine while attending a cultural festival in Bury St Edmunds with her father.

She designed a leaflet for a youth project Elaine was working on, took on office work and mastered the photocopier.

She attended a first aid course, helped out with the youngsters at the Haverhill Big Bash in the summer and has since become a member of the Havebury Youth Council.

Tochim said: "When we first came here it was very hard, but we are OK now. "I enjoyed school and I want to go to university, but I have a lot to think about before then. As soon as I met Elaine I got involved with being a volunteer and I have really enjoyed it."

"You meet new people and you are able to help people. It has helped me to feel part of the community."

Mrs Hewes said: "Young people are very energetic volunteers and we would like to encourage more in the 16 to 25 year age group. "The fact that young people have done volunteer work is very much valued by employers."

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer should ring (01440) 708444.

The extra work paid off as the Government has announced an increase in the funding for St Edmundsbury to £3.83 million.

Cllr John Griffiths, Leader of St Edmundsbury Borough Council, said: "We worked very hard to secure these funds on behalf of our communities and this is a good result for the borough."

"The funding recognises councils that are successful at promoting prosperity and growth in their area and every pound counts."

"The additional funding is very welcome, particularly in these challenging economic times, and will help provide the essential facilities and services that our area needs to accommodate this growth."

Extra £1m funding welcomed

AN EARLY Christmas present of just under £1 million has been handed to St Edmundsbury Borough Council in recognition of its success in promoting local prosperity.

In December last year the Government said the borough would receive a Growth Area Fund settlement of £2.85 million for 2009/10 and 2010/11 but in the autumn St Edmundsbury was invited to "refresh" its bid.

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The Growth Area Fund is designed to enable local authorities with ambitious plans for growth to invest in the essential services that need to accompany the building of new homes, from roads, to transport links and the provision of green spaces.

Housing policy in the area ensures that up to 40 per cent of new homes are affordable.



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Give 'generous care' to really celebrate

Christ coming to us, tells us about a God who wants to give of himself for this world and wants to show that love to everyone.

"He asks us to do the same.

"It might be one of those charitable gifts you can give to places overseas.

"Or it might be much more local, for the homeless at

A Christmas message from the Bishop of Bury St Edmunds and Ipswich, The Right Reverend Nigel Stock

Christmas, or one of those charities which care about break-up in family life, and support them."

bereaved or looks to help families that are caring for people who are elderly or sick. "Give something to show how much we are concerned about others."

says that God does not leave us to it, but comes to us, cares for us and wants us to know that he would like us to offer that same love and care to those around us.

"I hope in that generous care, we can make this a Christmas that really can celebrate the God who comes among us."



Abuse of staff 'not tolerated'

CHRISTMAS revellers who end up at West Suffolk Hospital are being urged to treat staff with dignity and respect – or face the consequences.

The hospital at Bury St Edmunds has announced a zero tolerance policy and said it will take action against anyone who abuses or assaults members of staff.

The hospital trust has issued the plea in the run up to the party season, which traditionally sees an increase in the number of people visiting the hospital suffering from the effects of alcohol.

Panic alarms are located in sensitive areas while police will regularly patrol the site. The hospital is also covered by CCTV.

Jan Bloomfield, executive director of workforce and communications at the trust, said: "The festive period is one of the busiest of the year for our dedicated A&E staff, who can often find themselves subjected to violence and abuse from the very people they are trying to help."

She said that aggressive behaviour was completely unacceptable and that the hospital would prosecute through the courts if necessary.

Tiny tots bring cheer to elderly



■ FESTIVE CAROLS

... above, Jesse Whybrow and, far right, Marni Lette, both three, sing a song for audiences at the day centre, right.



TINY tots from a pre-school group made the day of elderly visitors to a day centre when they went along to spread some Christmas cheer. A group of 15 children aged three and four years paid a visit to the Haverhill Day Centre in Camps Road to sing some Christmas carols and songs, as well as hand over some gifts.

The youngsters had previously visited after their harvest festival celebration and took along some gifts for the day centre clients. Jennifer North, pre-school manager of the Busy Bees group, based at Castle Playing Fields in Haverhill,

said the youngsters enjoyed the visit as much as their audience. She said: "It is nice to be able to teach the children to give and to do something for other people, as well as to respect your elders."

"They really enjoyed the singing and were joining in and clapping. At the end they really thanked us for taking the time to go there."

"We are a charity ourselves and I think it is nice to give something back to the community."

Busy Bees now operate for five days a week and most of its sessions are fully booked, but a waiting list is held, and for more information ring (01440) 705800.



Sharp rise in CAB calls over job cuts

HAVERHILL'S Citizens Advice Bureau is considering extending its opening hours to cope with a flood of people seeking advice as they face redundancy.

Brigitte Haig, manager of the bureau, said there had been a sharp rise in inquiries nationally and discussions would be held to see if longer opening hours were needed and to see if the bureau had the available resources.

Mrs Haig said: "If someone loses their job they do not just need advice about employment, but also possibly benefits, relationships, debt, mortgage payments and homes."

"To give some indication we are seeing on average three new clients every day with redundancy problems. In the past for a long stretch we did not see anyone at all, then for a while it was one a week and now it is three a day."

"The number of people com-

BY Jo Deeks

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ing through the door has increased, but we are here to help in any way that we can. People who have been in full time employment do not know where to start with filling in forms and we have taken on additional staff to help them so that there is no delay.

"If people are without a job, getting involved in the voluntary sector can help give them new skills and potentially gain employment in the future."

"We are very happy to give references and to help them find jobs. As many more people come for help, we also hope to involve more people as volunteers. We expect the situation to continue and I think employers look at how people have coped with the recession."

"There is a groundswell of support from councillors for the work that we are doing and we did receive additional funding from Suffolk County Council

earlier this month when they allocated £50,000 to bureaux across Suffolk to help pay for additional services."

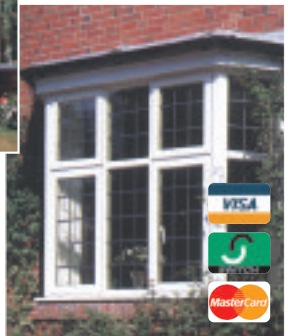
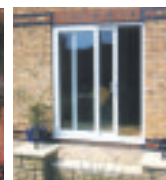
New figures released nationally by Citizens Advice reveal that since April 2008 daily inquiries relating to redundancy have increased by 125 per cent across the service, from under 200 per working day in April to 425 per day in November.

Citizens Advice chief executive, David Harker said: "Rarely a day goes by without reports of yet another company announcing job cuts. In this current climate it's imperative to know your rights and be able to access free advice if you have been made redundant or fear you may be."

Tips for people facing redundancy can be found at www.adviceguide.org.uk/index/whats_new_nov08_redundancy.htm

For advice from Haverhill CAB visit the Lower Downs Slade office, or to discuss volunteering call (01440) 763946.

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MAX ANDREW BURGESS

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*Take him in your arms Lord,
Guide him through the storm,
Sit with him in sunshine
and let the wind be warm,
Play his favourite music
and when you see him smile,
Tell him that we love him
and is thought of all the while*

Love

Sue, Joe, Tina, Hannah,
Paul, Alex, Justine,
Lee and Emma

In Memoriam

MAX ANDREW BURGESS

17.06.03 to
13.12.08

*A thousand
loving memories,
Stored up in our
hearts,
To take out and
live again
whenever the
tears start*

Love
Maisie, NeNi,
Orey, O, Charley,
Sam and Syd

Birthdays

Congratulations JAMES ANDREWS

18 years old
on the
29th
Enjoy your
special day

Lots of love from
Nan and Grandad
xxxx



Happy 18th Birthday JAMES ANDREWS

December 29th

Lots of love
from Nan Miles
and Freda



Happy 5th Birthday to our little princess ELICIA BOON

on Boxing Day



Lots of love,
hugs and kisses.
Love,
Mummy, Daddy
and Sonnie
xx

JAMES

Happy 18th
Birthday
for
December 29th.

Love,
Anthony and
Ashlie
xx

Happy 18th Birthday JAMES

for
December 29th.

Have a
great day.

Love,
Paul
and
Dawn
xx

Birthdays

Happy 18th Birthday UNCLE JAMES

December
29th.

Charlie



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Happy 18th
Birthday

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Happy 1st Birthday

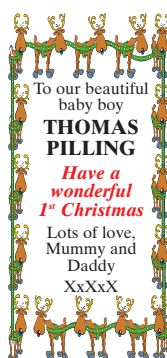
KAI MANEY



Have a lovely day
Our beautiful little boy

Lots of love, kisses and hugs
Mummy and Daddy
xxx

Christmas Greetings



To our beautiful baby boy THOMAS PILLING

*Have a
wonderful
1st Christmas*
Lots of love,
Mummy and
Daddy
XxXxX

Valentines

To our gorgeous
little nephew

BOBBY BROWN

*Hope your
first Christmas
is as special as
you are.*

Love,
Uncle
Lee
and
Auntie
Jenna



BY Rachel Exance

Email: editorial@stneotswklynews.co.uk

A1307 'death island' to get revamp

A TRAFFIC island on the A1307 where a lorry driver died will be revamped.

Bosses at Cambridgeshire County Council have put the scheme to redesign the island at Abington top of its list of accident reduction schemes for 2009/10.

Roadsweeper driver Robert Page, 31, of Barningham, was killed at the spot in April and another driver was injured in an accident involving the island earlier this year.

Now the council's cabinet has pledged £150,000 for the project after it scored highest when assessed against other schemes on its potential for reducing accidents as well as its effect on congestion and the environment.

The project will see the height of the curb reduced and the island made longer so that if heavy goods vehicles clip it, they are less likely to lose control.

Amanda Mays, team leader for road safety engineering, said: "There's quite a high curb there to give pedestrians protection from heavy traffic but we've had a couple of incidents in the last year in which large left hand drive vehicles have misjudged it and clipped the curb. That has had an effect on handling and they've lost control."

"It's a careful balancing act to protect pedestrians without compromising other people and vice versa. We've had pedestrian injuries there in the past before the island went in."

"An estimated 1,500 lorries a day do get through there fine but it can have awful consequences if people lose control."

Cllr Matt Bradney, cabinet member for growth and infrastructure, announced the scheme would be added to the list of road safety programmes at yesterday's cabinet meeting.

He said: "The A1307 has been a top priority for me. A lot of people have died on it."

"We've done really well on reducing accidents but we need to do more and this is one of those schemes which can help with that."

Esther Cornell, of road safety campaign group Access A1307, said: "We are very pleased the council is going to deal with the issue at this pedestrian refuge where there has been a serious accident and a fatal accident in the first few months of this year."

Seen something that's sparked your interest? Want to get something off your chest? Share it with our readers. Write to: Readers Letters, *Haverhill Weekly News*, 4 Queen Street, Haverhill, CB9 9EF or send an email to editorial@haverhillweeklynews.co.uk Please be as concise as possible and attach your full name, address and telephone number.

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Man guilty of assault spared jail

A MAN with a history of violent offending has been spared from going to prison because of the progress he has made in addressing his problems.

Colin Brown, 29, was found guilty by a jury at an earlier trial of causing actual bodily harm when he assaulted a man in an alleyway beside the White Hart public house in Haverhill in June last year.

His victim, Steven Rands, had been headbutted, the court heard. After the guilty verdict was announced, Mr Recorder Martyn Levett had deferred sentence until last week to see if Brown could stay out of trouble.

As Brown, of Chester Court, Haverhill, appeared in the dock at Ipswich Crown Court, Mr Recorder Levett said he was to be "commended" for what he had achieved by keeping away from pubs, voluntarily attending alcohol awareness meetings, and taking part in an aggression replacement therapy course.

Telling Brown that the prison

sentence justified by his offending would be suspended, the Recorder said: "I asked you to keep to your side of the bargain and I would keep to mine".

No further offences had been recorded against Brown, who had previously been convicted of using threatening behaviour, having a bladed article in a public place and wounding with intent.

In addition, Brown had shown his commitment to providing a stable home for his partner's young son.

Mr Recorder Levett imposed a 42 week prison sentence, suspended for 12 months together with a requirement to remain under Probation Service supervision for 12 months.

Any further offending or breach of the suspended sentence order was likely to result in immediate custody, Brown was warned.

Mr Recorder Levett told him: "You are at risk. It is best to keep a very close eye and monitor your own behaviour. I hope that this is a turning point for your life."



■ **LITTLE STARS** . . . from left, Ben Robinson, Louie Burke, Louis Neustead, Marliese Bush, Richie Hunsdon, Lisa Phillips, Oliver Jay and Jessica Thomas at the dress rehearsal for Kedington Primary School Christmas performance.

Picture: Alex Weatherill 524107.

Performance with party twist



PUPILS at Kedington Primary School became angels and helpers for their roles in the annual Christmas production. All of the 117 pupils at the school were involved in some way with *It's a Party*, a nativity story with a difference, based on a chief angel and her helpers getting kings and shepherds and guests together for a party where the star guest was baby Jesus. The younger tiger

and lions' pupils were involved in narrating and acting out the story, the older leopards and jaguars provided the choir and percussion and the youngest kittens played their part as well. Parents with younger children and members of the village Friendship Club went along to a dress rehearsal at the school, followed by two very successful evening performances.

Police pledge for safety

SUFFOLK Constabulary is signing up to a national "policing pledge". The pledge sets out clear standards for all forces and informs the public of the quality of service they should expect from their police. This includes standards for the amount of time spent on the beat, easy ways to contact Safer Neighbourhood Teams and clear response times to all calls and incidents. Chief Constable Simon Ash said: "We believe the pledge will provide a degree of focus upon the key commitments we are making in terms of delivering an excellent policing service."

Bench stolen from garden

A BENCH stolen from a front garden at Haverhill was later found on nearby wasteland.

The theft happened at Mallow Walk between 1pm on Sunday, December 14, and 9.45pm on Tuesday, December 16. Calls in relation to this incident should be made to Sgt Ali Torkington at Haverhill police on (01284) 774100.

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'She was so full of energy ... a life force'

WON'T be sending any Christmas cards this year," says Donna Vale. "I can't face writing cards without putting Maggie's name in them, to be honest. It just doesn't seem right."

Maggie, Donna's 14-year-old daughter, died of cancer six weeks ago.

"We found out she was terminal last Christmas Eve," Donna said. "So last Christmas was a blur; I don't remember much about it. I think the festive season went on hold for us ..."

While other mums get ready for the festivities, dressing trees and filling stockings, Donna is throwing herself into fundraising for cancer charity Clic Sargent.

She and Maggie's dad, John Vale, say the group helped their daughter live her last year to the full – and now they want to give something back.

"The people from Clic were there for us from the beginning," explains Donna. "Thanks to them, and the generosity of our friends and family, Maggie was able to stay at the Ritz, go to the Baftas, attend a film premiere. She had an amazing time."

John, 48, will run the London marathon next year – and he aims to raise £20,000 for Clic. "If I'm going to lose that much puff and sweat I want it to be worthwhile," he says, grinning.

"It's a tribute to Maggie: she was such a brave and tough little thing."

Maggie fell ill last autumn. "She was having trouble eating. She complained that it hurt," John remembers.

Doctors suspected Maggie, then 13, was suffering from heartburn.

Last Christmas the Vale family were told daughter Maggie's cancer was terminal. ALICE RYAN finds out how they plan to make her memory live forever.

But, when medication failed to work, they took a blood test – and then gave an endoscopy.

"They thought she might have a stomach ulcer," continues John. "But even that, in someone her age, they said was very unlikely. What they found was a growth in her stomach. I can still remember where I was when I got the call, saying they thought it was cancer," adds John, a decorator.

"I can remember the exact window I was painting ... It was a very odd feeling."

Sent to Addenbrooke's for a biopsy, Maggie was found to have adenocarcinoma.

"It's really rare to find it in a child," explains Donna, 44.

"I've only heard of one other case in the country."

Prescribed a six-month course of chemo, Maggie was taken in to Addenbrooke's last Christmas Eve to have a Hickman line fitted – a tube for intravenous medication.

"It was while she was under that they told us they couldn't cure her," continues Donna.

"They'd done a CT scan which showed it spread to her liver. It was devastating; we had to try and compose ourselves."

"I remember saying 'I don't want to ask this, but I have to: how long has she got?'. The doctor said possibly a year."

Donna and John, who also have a younger daughter, Charlotte, now 13, agreed not to tell Maggie her illness was

terminal. "We wanted her to have some hope," said John. "And, deep down, I think we were hoping that the doctors were wrong – we were hoping for a miracle, basically."

"We told Maggie this type of cancer was very difficult to treat but she wasn't one to be fazed. She carried on more or less as if she hadn't got it; she was so brave."

"I always describe her as a life force: even at 18-months-old she would come into a room and dominate it. She was just so full of energy. When she had a wig and make-up on you'd hardly know she was ill."

A pupil at Heddingham School in Halstead, Maggie was reluctant to give up her studies. During chemo, she asked for a home tutor.

"She enjoyed it and felt like she wanted to carry on learning," said Donna. "And she was very artistic: she did several paintings while she was ill, and they're all in such bright, vibrant colours."

"The chemo was hard," Donna adds. "But without it, she wouldn't have made it to Easter. And it allowed her to enjoy things."

Film buff Maggie's dream to attend a movie premiere came true this summer. Arranging for Maggie and two friends to go to the opening of *Iron Man*, Donna and John also laid on a ride in a pink limo and new outfits for them all.

Another highlight of Maggie's last months was staying at the Ritz and going to the Baftas – where she saw Anthony Hopkins collect a lifetime achievement award.

"She really loved the Hannibal Lecter movies," adds John. "That was a great moment for her."

The cancer began to take its toll on Maggie's health. But she refused to let it stand in her way. When a group of her teachers decided to run the Race for Life in her honour, to raise cash for Cancer Research UK, Maggie completed the



5km course with them.

"One day she looked at me and said 'How long?'," recalls John, his eyes welling with tears.

"I told her. I couldn't lie to her; we never lied to her. She was so mature about it – she was wise well beyond her years."

As well as paying tribute to Maggie, Donna and John say her sister Charlotte has been "brilliant", always willing to help.

In late August, Maggie's health took a sudden dive. The family, from Birdbrook, near Haverhill, had just returned from a holiday in Gran Canaria, when she started to feel pain.

"She never complains so, when she starts, you know it's something serious," says John. In Addenbrooke's, Maggie was put on morphine. Allowed home, she was cared for by her parents and sister, along with nurses and Dr Jane Ridley, the family's GP.

"Dr Ridley was here three or four times a day," says Donna. "She and her husband were due to be going on holiday but they didn't go; she didn't want to leave Maggie. I can't describe how fantastic she's been. I gave her one of Maggie's paintings."

When Maggie died, the community seemed to go into mourning. More than 300 people attended her funeral, held at Birdbrook church. Wanting it to be a celebration of their vibrant daughter's life, Donna and John chose her a cerise coffin and asked every guest to wear a touch of pink.

Egged on by Jackie Delf, a family friend and keen runner, John decided last month to run the London marathon. Jackie, who is helping John to train, will also race alongside him.

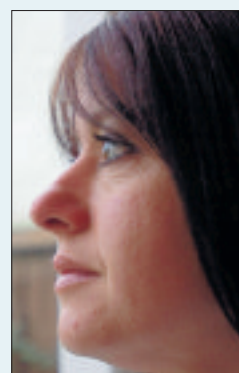
Pupils, parents and teachers at Heddingham School have already pledged more than £700 and John's friends, who all play at a local snooker club, are planning a pay-to-play fundraiser.

"A year ago I hadn't even heard of Clic Sargent," adds John. "But this has been quite a year. While we were in the hospital with Maggie we met so many other families in the same boat: I'm doing this for them, as well as for her."

"I'm sure she'd want everyone to stay strong and be positive, like she did. That's the special kind of girl she was."

■ To sponsor John's marathon, visit www.justgiving.com/maggiesmarathonrunners or collect a form from the Weekly News offices in Queen Street, Haverhill.

■ For more details on Clic Sargent visit www.clicsargent.org.uk



■ "A LIFE FORCE" ... top, Maggie Vale, who died seven weeks ago, was a bright, artistic girl who was full of energy, say her parents Donna, above, and with husband John, below.

Search on for unique tabby

A MUCH-LOVED tabby cat with an unusual looking coat has gone missing from home in Haverhill.

Elliott is a herringbone tabby with very tight knit grey/black fur and also has one blue and one green eye.

He was a rescue cat when owner Lorraine Conrad gave him a home at Hazel Close 15 years ago. He is very well known by school children who pass by, as well as local residents.

Mrs Conrad has not seen her cat for more than a week is asking everyone to check their sheds for him.

Anyone with information can ring (01440) 709470.

Clubhouse burglary

BAR stock, equipment and speakers were stolen from Haverhill Rover's clubhouse at Haverhill overnight.

The burglary from the sports club at Hamlet Road happened between 6pm on Monday, December 15, and 7.30pm on the Tuesday.

Thieves had broken in by forcing a door and stolen crisps, chocolates, alcohol, bar equipment and speakers.

Anyone with information can contact PC Carl Brandwood at Haverhill police on (01284) 774100 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

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Spate of stable thefts sparks warning

HORSE owners across west Suffolk are urged to be vigilant after a recent spate of thefts from stables and tack rooms.

Suffolk police are appealing for people to be on their guard and advising them to review their current security measures.

Crime Reduction Officer Les King advises that ideally all tack

should be kept in a brick built room, with a well-fitted solid door secured with a high-security closed shackle padlock and bar.

He added: "All large tack rooms should be protected with an intruder alarm, saddles should be photographed and all saddlery security marked, including head collars, bridles and rugs."

The marking, with either a postcode and house number or name, is frequently offered by Safer Neighbourhood Teams, for further information contact your local team on (01473) 613500.

Anyone with any information about the thefts should call Suffolk Police on (01473) 613500 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

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Account	Tier	Previous 01.12.08 to 31.12.08 Gross p.a./aer %	Current from 01.01.09 Gross p.a./aer %	Net p.a. %
Cashbuild 60				
	£250,000 or over	2.50	1.75	1.40
	£100,000 or over	2.40	1.65	1.32
	£50,000 or over	2.25	1.50	1.20
	£25,000 or over	2.10	1.10	0.88
	£10,000 or over	2.00	1.00	0.80
	£500 or over	1.95	0.95	0.76
Monthly Income Option				
	£250,000 or over	2.47/2.50	1.74/1.75	1.39
	£100,000 or over	2.37/2.40	1.64/1.65	1.31
	£50,000 or over	2.23/2.25	1.49/1.50	1.19
	£25,000 or over	2.08/2.10	1.09/1.10	0.88
	£10,000 or over	1.98/2.00	1.00/1.00	0.80
	£5,000 or over	1.93/1.95	0.95/0.95	0.76
Cashbuild 90				
	£50,000 or over	3.00	2.50	2.00
	£25,000 or over	2.80	2.30	1.84
	£10,000 or over	2.65	2.15	1.72
Cashbuild				
	£20,000 or over	0.90	0.40	0.32
	£10,000 or over	0.45	0.25	0.20
	£500 or over	0.25	0.10	0.08
	£1 or over	0.10	0.10	0.08
Premium Saver	£10 or over	3.20	3.20	2.56
Flexi Saver	£10 or over	2.10	1.10	0.88
V4 (issues 1 & 2) & Ladybird (issues 1, 2 & 3)				
	£25,000 or over	4.00	3.50	2.80
	£10,000 or over	3.50	3.10	2.48
	£1 or over	3.25	2.75	2.20
Theo's Gang	£1 or over	2.10	1.10	0.88
e-saver (issue 2)				
	£1,000 or over	3.10	2.10	1.68
	£100 or over	2.70	1.70	1.36
Monthly income option				
	£1,000 or over	3.06/3.10	2.08/2.10	1.66
	£100 or over	2.67/2.70	1.69/1.70	1.35
e-saver 55-plus				
	£10,000 or over	3.80	2.80	2.24
	£1,000 or over	3.74/3.80	2.76/2.80	2.21
Cash ISA 180 Notice* (issue 2)	£1,000 or over	3.55	2.55	n/a
Cash ISA 90 Day Notice*	£1 or over	3.10	2.10	n/a
Cash ISA 60 Day Notice* (issue 2)	£1,000 or over	4.00/3.76	3.00/2.76	n/a
Cash ISA Easy Access*	£1 or over	2.35	1.35	n/a
Charitable Giving Accounts	£500 or over	2.15	1.15	0.92
Company & Club Charity Deposits				
	£250,000 or over	2.65	1.65	n/a
	£100,000 or over	2.55	1.55	n/a
	£50,000 or over	2.30	1.30	n/a
	£1 or over	1.30	0.30	n/a
Sports and Social clubs				
	£10,000 or over	0.55	0.10	0.08
	£1 or over	0.10	0.10	0.08
Corporate Deposits				
	£250,000 or over	2.45	1.45	1.16
	£100,000 or over	2.15	1.15	0.92
	£10,000 or over	1.65	0.65	0.52
	£500 or over	0.25	0.10	0.08
Pension Funds				
	£50,000 or over	1.65	0.65	n/a
	£1 or over	1.15	0.15	n/a
Solicitors' undesignated client account				
	£100,000 or over	1.10	0.10	n/a
	£50,000 or over	0.90	0.10	n/a
	£1 or over	0.40	0.10	n/a
Charity Tracker	£500 or over	3.00	2.00	1.60
Solicitors' Reserve Account	£5,000 or over	3.00	2.00	1.60
Super Bond*	£500 or over	5.00	4.00	3.20
Tracker Bond				
	£50,000 or over	4.30	3.30	2.64
	£25,000 or over	4.00	3.00	2.40
	£500 or over	3.75	2.75	2.20
Members' Tracker Bond				
	£50,000 or over	4.55	3.55	2.84
	£25,000 or over	4.25	3.25	2.60
	£500 or over	4.00	3.00	2.40
Closed Issues				
U's Saver				
	£20,000 or over	1.00	0.10	0.08
	£10,000 or over	0.85	0.10	0.08
	£500 or over	0.50	0.10	0.08
	£1 or over	0.10	0.10	0.08
Superstart	£25 or over	3.35	2.35	1.88
TESSA only ISA*	£500 or over	3.20	2.20	n/a
Cash Tracker ISA 180 Day Notice*	£1 or over	3.50	2.50	n/a
Cash Tracker ISA 30 Day Notice*	£3,000 or over	3.00	2.00	n/a
Cash ISA 60 Day Notice* (issue 1)	£1,000 or over	4.00	3.00	n/a
90 Day Tracker	£5,000 or over	3.00	2.00	1.60
e-saver (issue 1)				
	£1,000 or over	3.30	2.30	1.84
	£100 or over	2.90	1.90	1.52
Equivalent Share Account				
	£10,000 or over	1.35	0.35	0.28
	£500 or over	0.50	0.10	0.08
	£1 or over	0.10	0.10	0.08
International Cashbuild				
	£20,000 or over	0.80	0.10	0.08
	£10,000 or over	0.35	0.10	0.08
	£500 or over	0.15	0.10	0.08
	£1 or over	0.10	0.10	0.08
Charity Share Account				
	£50,000 or over	2.45	1.45	1.16
	£1 or over	1.45	0.45	0.36
Thrift Clubs				
	£10,000 or over	2.80	1.80	1.44
	£1 or over	0.50	0.10	0.08
Cashbuild Monthly Income				
	£20,000 or over	0.90/0.90	0.40/0.40	0.32
	£10,000 or over	0.45/0.45	0.25/0.25	0.20
	£500 or over	0.25/0.25	0.10/0.10	0.08
	£1 or over	0.10/0.10	0.10/0.10	0.08

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Gym fans praise well-built 'Pod'

BY Jo Deeks

Email: editorial@haverhillweeklynews.co.uk

AN INNOVATIVE temporary building which has allowed Haverhill residents to continue their fitness regimes while their leisure centre undergoes a major refurbishment has been hailed a success.

Abbecroft Leisure and St Edmundsbury Borough Council teamed up to provide customers with a temporary facility, called "The Pod", when Haverhill Leisure Centre closed for a £5million 12-month refurbishment and maintenance project in June.

The Pod, which has been constructed on land next to the leisure centre, includes a 60 station fitness studio, group exercise studio catering for 25 people, and dedicated showers and toilets.

The temporary facility, which opened in June, has been extremely well received by customers, who say it has gone well beyond their expectations. In total, around 900 members are enjoying the use of the structure.

Warren Smyth, chief executive of Abbecroft Leisure, said: "The Pod has been extremely successful and we are pleased that the facilities have been so well received by our customers. This project has enabled the local community to remain active during the 12 months its leisure centre will be closed, which is important to maintaining fitness and wellbeing in Haverhill."

The project involved working with several key partners to ensure its successful delivery, including Life Fitness, who helped with transporting The Pod to its temporary home. The building



■ TEMPORARY MEASURE... top, gym-goers work out in one of the new pods, above.

itself was very cost effective and was provided by Spacio Tempo. It has been widely complemented as both aesthetically pleasing and professional.

Cllr Lynsey Alexander, portfolio holder for culture and sport at St Edmundsbury, said: "This project is a great example of two organisations working closely together to ensure that members don't miss out during major building works."

"Haverhill Leisure Centre is an extremely popular facility, and we are delighted that its customers can continue their workouts while work on the new, improved building takes place. We are certain it will be worth the wait!"

Abbecroft Leisure has welcomed St Edmundsbury's £5 million capital investment into the leisure centre. Once work is complete, the building will include an extended fitness studio with new changing facilities, a new pool changing village, poolside spectator area and new reception area.

The building is due to reopen in July 2009 and will complement a new multi-screen cinema and restaurants, which were opened on a neighbouring site earlier this year.

Good Samaritan's purse stolen

A PURSE was stolen from a woman's handbag in the Argos catalogue store at Haverhill.

The theft happened in the High Street store between 10.45am and 10.50am on Tuesday, December 16. The owner of the purse had been

asked her help at the payment machine by another woman and afterwards found her purse was missing.

The second woman is described as white, in her early 40s, 5 ft 3 in tall, of medium build with dark curly hair and

glasses and was wearing a burgundy coat with a fur collar and cuffs.

Calls in relation to this incident should be made to Pc Carl Brandwood at Haverhill police on (01284) 774100 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Freetime



IF you are planning an event let us know. Call Nik Shelton on (01223) 434429, fax details to (01223) 434415 or email nik.shelton@cambridge-news.co.uk

Magic beans help blow away those recession blues

NIK SHELTON reviews Jack and the Beanstalk at the Cambridge Arts Theatre.

WITH the world economy on the slide and unemployment on the rise, perhaps someone should tell Gordon Brown that all we really need to lift the nation's spirits is a handful of magic beans. It's certainly doing the trick at the Arts Theatre where the annual pantomime is in full swing and proves the perfect remedy for banishing those recession blues. The theatre has been perfecting a winning formula in recent years with stars Julie Buckfield, donning the thigh length boots and tights once again to play plucky hero Jack and Matt Crosby whipping the youngsters into a frenzy of excitement as lovably dopey Silly Billy. One half of last year's ugly sister duo, Brad Pitt, who also writes and co-directs the show, returns with a series of increasingly outlandish frocks to play Dame Trott and piles on the groansome gags and saucy puns until the audience is rolling in the aisles. The story – just in case you grew



up on another planet – sees young Jack selling the family's precious milk cow for a handful of enchanted legumes in order to pay off a tyrannical giant. When

the bewitched veg grows into an enormous beanstalk the hero decides to climb it and slay the oversized despot. As a bonus for his troubles he also gets to win

the hand in marriage of a local princess. Highlights of the show include an aeroplane flight to cloudland that is as unpredictable as a Ryanair



departure board and a disastrously slapstick ice cream making factory that would have turned a health and safety officer's hair white. Throw in a floating fairy, a booming giant, an evil henchman and a host of song and dance routines brimming with energy and it soon becomes clear why this panto manages to pack its seats year after year. But when you've got a house teeming with cheeky children there's always going to be at least one pint-sized star who'll step up to steal the show. One of the biggest laughs on review night came entirely unscripted from an eight-year-old who, when invited on stage to sing a song, misread the lyrics and replaced the words Boo Hoo with something quite a lot ruder. The credit crunch may be biting but buying a ticket to this fantastic show is one investment you're guaranteed to get a great return on. Jack and the Beanstalk runs until January 18. Tickets are £10-£27.50. To book, call (01223) 503333 or visit the website at www.cambridgeartstheatre.com

A musical of spellbinding magic

EMMA HIGGINBOTHAM reviews Beauty and the Beast at the Cambridge Corn Exchange.

PERSUADING my strapping boyfriend to accompany me to musicals – especially of the Disney variety – isn't always easy. But he was surprisingly willing to come to see *Beauty And The Beast* with me. Why? Because one of his equally strapping friends was already going with his girlfriend, presumably under duress as well.

But *Beauty and the Beast* isn't just one for the girls and kids.

The Corn Exchange was packed to its lofty rafters with people of all ages (and

both sexes) for the show's opening night in Cambridge, and within moments I knew why.

From the first chords to the tearfully rousing finale, I was absolutely gripped. The classic fairytale tells the story of a beautiful young girl, Belle, who is forced to live with a hideous beast – a cursed prince – in his enchanted castle . . . and, well, you can guess the rest. Brought to the stage with all the splendour you'd expect from a Disney-approved outfit, *Beauty and the Beast* is an absolute triumph. Stunning scenery, the most incredible costumes and top-notch singing and dancing all combine to provide a breathlessly spectacular show. There's plenty of comedy too, predominantly from servants-cum-inanimate objects Lumiere (the candlestick) and Cogsworth (the clock), as well as Belle's suitor, the cheesey Gaston (who's like the horrific offspring of John Barrowman and the Fonze). But many of the laughs come from the Beast himself, trying

desperately to be a gentleman in front of Belle.

The large set pieces were wonderful – particularly the Busby Berkeley-style dance routine of glittery crockery and cutlery singing *Be Our Guest*.

But many of the best moments were the solo songs Tania 'Mrs Potts' Newton's rendition of the *Beauty And The Beast* theme in particular had me reaching for the tissues (fortunately I could blame my snuffles on my nasty cold).

As for the leads, Ashley Oliver was suitably entrancing as Belle, and Matthew Cammelle was magnificent as The Beast, mainly thanks to his beautifully resonant voice – and ability to be loveable and fearsome at the same time.

At the end of the fabulously slick show, my boyfriend's strapping friend came bounding up to us, beaming like a kid. "I've got two words for you," he panted. "Spellbinding magic!" I think that says it all.

Beauty And The Beast is at the Corn Exchange until January 4. Call (01223) 357851 to book.



your stars with
Russell Grant

Mar 21 - Apr 20

Aries
Career concerns are on your mind. Talk to an experienced friend about your ideas. It's also a good plan to put together a list of long term aims. If you're tired with your current profession, you could easily change direction now.

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Taurus Apr 21 - May 21

Developing your creative talent may be more rewarding than accumulating things. Next time you feel restless, reach for a paintbrush instead of your credit card. Visiting an exotic country will introduce you to new perspectives and techniques.

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Gemini May 22 - Jun 22

Sharing your resources may be the chief challenge you face. Taking on a roommate, forming a business partnership, or getting married means giving up some independence. At times, it will be a relief to have someone to share your burdens.

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Cancer Jun 23 - Jul 23

It's time to be more assertive with a business associate or partner who has been riding roughshod over your feelings. It's possible that too much water has flowed under the bridge. If that's the case, make a clean break as soon as possible.

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

You've got to work out a new work schedule before the New Year begins. This past year has been a lot of fun, but you've squandered some opportunities. Eating healthy, taking exercise, and practicing a skill will help you make up for lost time.

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

Taking risks has never been your strong suit. This week you'll be forced to venture out of your comfort zone. May you feel compelled to ask someone on a date. Perhaps you'll be asked to try your hand at a creative medium.

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Libra Sep 24 - Oct 23

Improving your home and family life can be as simple as spending more time with your nearest and dearest. While it's good that you have achieved so much career success, your loved ones are starting to feel neglected.

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Scorpio Oct 24 - Nov 22

Becoming more active in your neighbourhood is a good idea. It's even possible you have grown alienated from your neighbours. You need to reach out to the people around you so why not ask the person next door in for a festive drink?

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 21

Contrary to what you might think, money is not the root of evil. On the contrary, it is a form of energy that can be used for positive or negative purposes. Creating financial security should be your first order of business in the New Year.

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 20

Opportunities for creative expression abound in the New Year. At long last, you'll be able to reduce your workload and devote the lion's share of your time to painting, drawing, writing, or any other artistic medium that takes your fancy.

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Over the past six months, you've made ridiculous demands on yourself. Now you're starting to feel the toll this attitude has had on your health. You're going to have to cut back your schedule, whether you like it or not.

To hear more call 0905 232 6057
Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Learning to work with a team will take on an increasing importance in the New Year. In the past, you were able to do your own thing. You may not have this luxury in the months to come. Adapting will be difficult, but it will have its rewards.

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- local views
- local news
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STORM

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BBC1	BBC2	ANGLIA	CHANNEL 4	five
6.00 Breakfast.	6.00 CBeebies: Balamory.	6.00 GMTV.	6.10 The Hoobs.	6.00 Angels of Jarm.
9.00 CBBC: Hotel Trubble.	6.20 Teletubbies.	9.25 All Star Mr & Mrs Christmas Special.	7.00 The Treacle People.	6.10 Chiro.
9.30 ChuckleVision.	6.45 64 Zoo Lane.	10.25 Christmas Cooks Challenge.	7.10 FILM: The Muppets Take Manhattan (1984). Puppet comedy, with Liza Minnelli.	6.15 Franny's Feet.
10.00 Arthur.	7.00 Boogie Beebies.	11.25 Aled Jones' Ultimate Christmas Carols.	8.50 T4: Friends.	6.25 Fireman Sam.
10.25 FILM: It's a Very Merry Muppet Christmas Movie (2002). Festive comedy, with Whoopi Goldberg.	7.15 Bool.	12.25 ITV News and Weather.	9.25 T4: 4Music Presents: Pussycat Dolls.	6.40 The Beeps.
11.50 FILM: High School Musical (2006). Teenage comedy drama, starring Zac Efron.	7.35 Big Cook Little Cook.	12.50 Anglia News and Weather.	9.55 T4: Friends.	6.50 Milkshake! Music Box.
1.25 BBC News; Weather.	8.00 CBBC: Arthur.	12.55 FILM: Santa Claus: The Movie (1985). Fantasy adventure. Dudley Moore stars.	10.30 T4: Rihanna Live in Concert.	7.00 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky.
1.40 Big Cat Live Revisited.	8.25 Diddy Dick & Dom.	3.00 FILM: The Polar Express (2004). Animated adventure, with the voice of Tom Hanks.	11.30 T4: 4Music Presents: Pink.	7.10 Roary the Racing Car.
2.40 FILM: The Santa Clause (1994). Comedy, starring Tim Allen.	8.30 The Life of Mammals.	4.50 FILM: Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory (1971). Musical adventure, with Gene Wilder.	12.00 T4: George Michael: Live at Earls Court.	7.25 The Mr Men Show.
4.10 FILM: Sky High (2005). Fantasy comedy, starring Kurt Russell.	9.30 Elizabethan Express.	6.45 ITV News; Weather.	12.05 FILM: Freaky Friday (1976). Body-swap comedy, starring Jodie Foster.	7.35 Make Way for Noddy.
5.45 BBC News.	10.00 The British Transport Films - A Nation on Film Special.	7.00 Emmerdale. Nicola asks the choir to perform at Ashley's final sermon.	2.00 The Simpsons.	7.50 Fifi and the Flowertots.
6.00 Look East; Weather.	11.00 Absolutely Chuffed: The Men Who Built a Steam Engine.	7.30 Coronation Street. As Carla and the factory girls celebrate at the Underworld Christmas party, little do they know Tony is hiding a horrific secret.	2.30 Lost and Found.	8.00 Play!
6.05 FILM: Toy Story 2 (1999). Buzz Lightyear and the gang embark on a daring rescue mission after Woody is stolen.	11.30 FILM: The Preacher's Wife (1996). Romantic comedy, starring Whitney Houston.	8.00 You've Been Framed at Christmas! Seasonal special.	3.00 The Snowman.	8.10 Peppa Pig.
7.30 Shrek the Halls. Shrek settles down for a quiet Christmas with Fiona and the babies - but Donkey has other plans.	1.30 Johnny Goes to Lapland.	8.30 Midsomer Murders. A fatal explosion at a haulage yard proves a difficult case for Barnaby.	3.30 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions.	8.15 Thomas & Friends.
8.00 EastEnders. Sean and Roxy tell everyone about their planned move.	2.30 Murder, She Wrote.	10.30 The News and Weather.	4.30 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions.	8.30 Rupert Bear.
8.30 My Family.	3.15 Flog It!	10.44 Anglia Weather.	5.30 Channel 4 News.	8.40 Roobarb and Custard.
9.30 Have I Got News for You Xmas 2008.	4.00 Escape to the Country.	10.45 Christmas Carols from Alder Hey.	5.45 Deal or No Deal Christmas Star.	8.45 Poooyo.
10.00 Gavin & Stacey Christmas Special. Gavin and Stacey have an announcement.	4.45 Ready, Steady, Cook.	11.14 Anglia Weather.	6.45 FILM: A Christmas Carol (1999). Adaptation of Dickens' classic tale of the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, who regains his festive spirit thanks to a visit by a ghost. Patrick Stewart and Richard E Grant star.	8.55 Milky and Shake Show.
11.00 BBC News; Weather.	5.30 Star of Bethlehem.	11.45 FILM: The Jerk (1979) Comedy.	8.30 Jamie Cooks Christmas. The Family at Christmas.	9.00 Who's Got God's Millions?
11.15 The National Lottery Draws.	6.30 Carols from King's.	1.35 FILM: Huckleberry Finn (1974). Musical.	9.30 The Family at Christmas.	10.00 Zoo Days.
11.30 Christmas Midnight Eucharist.	7.45 As Time Goes By Reunion Special. Jean looks forward to becoming a grandmother.		10.35 Star Stories.	10.30 Penguin Adventure with Nigel Marven.
12.45 FILM: Grumpy Old Men (1993). Comedy.	8.30 FILM: Calendar Girls (2003). The ladies of a Yorkshire branch of the Women's Institute decide to raise money for charity - by posing nude for a calendar. Fact-based comedy, starring Julie Walters and Helen Mirren.		11.10 The Charlotte Church Nutcracking Christmas Special.	11.20 Zoo Days.
	10.15 Arena: Paul Scofield. Tribute to the actor, who died in March this year.		12.10 George Michael: Live at Earls Court.	11.30 World's Strongest Man Super Series.
	11.25 TOTP2.		12.20 FILM: Black Christmas (1974). Horror.	12.30 FILM: The Three Worlds of Gulliver (1960). Children's drama, starring Kerwin Mathews.
	12.00 The Peter Serafinowicz Show.			2.30 Five News Update.
				2.50 FILM: The Christmas Shoes (2002). Drama, starring Rob Lowe.
				4.50 FILM: Scroogie (1951). Drama, with Alastair Sim.
				6.30 Polar Bear Adventures with Nigel Marven.
				7.30 Danger Men.
				8.30 The Gadget Show Christmas Stocking.
				9.30 Christmas Comedy's Greatest Moments.
				12.30 30 Rock.
				1.00 Prison Break.
				1.50 FILM: Point Blank (1967). Crime thriller.

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CHRISTMAS DAY

BBC1	BBC2	ANGLIA	CHANNEL 4	five
6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 CBBC: Hotel Trubble. 9.30 The Slammer. 10.00 Pinky and Perky: It's Christmaaaas! 10.15 Frankenstein's Cat. 10.25 Christmas Day Eucharist. 11.25 FILM: The Santa Clause 2 (2002). Sequel. 1.05 The Two Ronnies: Christmas Special 1997. 1.50 BBC News: Weather. 2.00 Top of the Pops. 3.00 The Queen. 3.10 FILM: Shark Tale (2004). Animated adventure. 4.30 FILM: Wallace and Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit (2005). Animated adventure. 5.45 BBC News: Weather. 6.00 Doctor Who. 7.00 Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special 2008. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Wallace & Gromit: A Matter of Loaf and Death. Brand new animated adventure. 9.00 EastEnders. A revelation about Amy threatens to rip Roxy and Sean apart. 9.30 The Royle Family. The Royle return, two years after their last outing. 10.30 Blackadder Rides Again. 11.35 BBC News: Weather. 11.45 FILM: Bend It Like Beckham (2002).	6.00 CBeebies: Balamory. 6.20 Teletubbies. 6.45 64 Zoo Lane. 7.00 Boogie Beebies. 7.15 LazyTown. 7.40 Postman Pat. 8.00 CBBC: ChuckleVision. 8.15 The Likeaballs. 8.25 Diddy Dick & Dom. 8.30 The Life of Mammals. 9.30 Wainwright Walks. 10.00 FILM: My Fair Lady (1964). Oscar-winning musical, starring Audrey Hepburn. 12.45 FILM: Oklahoma! (1955). Western musical. 3.00 Hansel and Gretel from the Royal Opera House. 5.00 The Truth About Carols. 6.00 Maestro: The Inside Story. 7.00 Blackadder's Christmas Carol. 7.50 The Queen. The Queen's annual address. 8.00 Dad's Army. 8.30 Dragons' Den Goes Global. Documentary examining International versions of the business programme. 9.30 Top Gear. The team travels to America. 10.30 FILM: Casanova (2005). Romantic drama, starring Heath Ledger. 12.15 Have I Got a Bit More News for You Xmas 2008.	6.00 GMTV. 9.25 Coleen's Christmas at Alder Hey. 10.25 Christmas Cooks Challenge. 11.25 FILM: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989). Festive comedy. 1.10 ITV News and Weather. 1.20 FILM: Bean (1997). Rowan Atkinson stars. 3.00 The Queen. 3.10 FILM: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (2004). Magical adventure. 5.45 ITV News and Weather. 6.00 Emmerdale. Victoria is upset after Daz says she was to blame for a kiss between the pair. 7.00 Coronation Street. Tony returns to the factory to dispose of the evidence, but gets a shock on his arrival. 8.00 Dancing on Ice at Christmas. 9.30 It'll Be Alright on the Night. A collection of out-takes. 10.30 Stanley Baxter: Now and Then. Tribute to the veteran comedian. 11.30 The Late News and Weather. 11.45 FILM: Mermaids (1990). Comedy starring Cher and Winona Ryder.	6.05 Inuk. 6.20 The Hoobs. 6.45 The Treacle People Christmas Special. 7.00 Little Wolf's Book of Badness. 7.30 Olive the Other Reindeer. 8.25 Max Bear and the Lucky Charm. 9.00 T4: Friends. 9.30 T4: The Simpsons. 10.00 T4: Friends. 10.30 T4: George Michael: Live at Earls Court Exclusive. 10.35 T4: Westlife Live in Croke Park. 11.35 T4: Girls Aloud: Tangled Up Live from the O2. 12.40 T4: George Michael: Live at Earls Court Exclusive. 12.45 T4: The Simpsons. 1.15 FILM: Lassie (2005). 3.00 Deal or No Deal Christmas Star. 4.00 FILM: Scrooged (1988). 5.50 The Simpsons. 6.15 A Boy Called Alex. 7.15 The Alternative Christmas Message. 7.25 Channel 4 News. 7.30 The Nativity Decoded. 9.30 The Secret Millionaire Changed My Life. 10.35 Alan Carr Live. 11.40 Lee Evans XL Tour. 12.40 FILM: Vault of Horror (1973). Horror.	6.00 Milkshake! 9.00 Zoo Days. 9.30 Michaela's Zoo Babies. 10.30 Penguin Adventure with Nigel Marven. 11.20 World's Strongest Man Super Series. 12.20 The Big Stunt Show. 12.50 Fifth Gear. 1.05 FILM: Casper's Haunted Christmas (2000). Animated adventure, with the voice of Brendon Ryan Barrett. 2.45 FILM: A Carol Christmas (2003). Festive drama, starring Toni Spelling. 4.30 Rory and Paddy's Great British Adventure. 5.30 Ice Road Truckers. 6.30 Five News. 6.45 FILM: Memoirs of a Geisha (2005). Premiere. A young girl is sold to a geisha house where she is taught the appropriate manners and skills required to entertain men. 9.30 Most Shocking Celebrity Moments of the 21st Century. Celebrity scandals from the past eight years, featuring Angus Deayton's downfall, Prince Harry's fancy-dress costume and the Russell Brand and Jonathan Ross saga. 12.35 30 Rock.



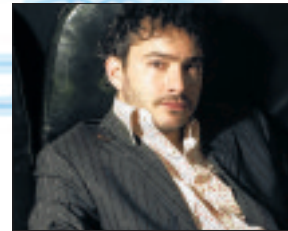
David Tennant and David Morrissey
Doctor Who
BBC 1, Christmas Day, 6pm



Emma Watson, Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
Anglia, Christmas Day, 3.10pm



Charlotte Church
Charlotte Church Nutcracking Christmas
Channel Four, Christmas Eve, 11.10pm



Giles Coren
Christmas Comedy's Greatest Moments
five, Christmas Eve, 9.30pm



BOXING DAY

BBC1	BBC2	ANGLIA	CHANNEL 4	five
6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 CBBC: Hotel Trubble. 9.30 The Basil Brush Show. 9.55 Hider in the House. 10.25 Jackanory Junior. 10.40 FILM: A Goofy Movie (1995). Adventure. 11.55 FILM: Ella Enchanted (2004). Adventure. 1.25 News: Weather. 1.40 Keeping Up Appearances. 2.30 FILM: Big (1988). Comedy. 4.10 FILM: Madagascar (2005). Animated quest. 5.30 BBC News: Weather. 5.45 Look East: Weather. 5.50 FILM: The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (2005). Adventure. 8.00 EastEnders. Dot is taken aback by Nick's arrival. 8.30 FILM: Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest (2006). Captain Jack Sparrow is finally reunited with his ship, having sold his soul to the legendary Davy Jones, who has now risen from the depths to collect the debt. 10.50 News and Weather. 11.00 The National Lottery EuroMillions Draw. 11.05 Match of the Day. 12.35 Not Going Out.	6.00 CBeebies: Balamory. 6.20 Teletubbies. 6.45 64 Zoo Lane. 7.00 Boogie Beebies. 7.15 LazyTown. 7.40 Postman Pat. 8.00 LazyTown. 8.30 The Life of Mammals. 9.30 Wainwright Walks. 10.00 Coast. 10.10 The Signalman. 10.50 Ian Hislop Goes Off the Rails. 11.50 FILM: The Importance of Being Earnest (1952). Comedy, starring Michael Redgrave. 1.25 FILM: South Pacific (1958). Musical, starring Mitzi Gaynor. 3.50 Ready, Steady, Cook. 4.35 Final Score. 5.25 Are You Being Served? 5.55 FILM: Nicholas Nickleby (2002). Drama, starring Charlie Hunnam. 8.00 Dad's Army. 8.30 The Man Who Made Eric & Ernie. 9.30 The Morecambe and Wise Christmas Show. Seasonal special 1975. 10.40 The Generation Game 1973 at Christmas. 11.40 The Two Ronnies: Old Fashioned Mystery. The turkey goes missing at the Christmas meal. 12.40 TOTP2.	6.00 GMTV. 9.25 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? 10.25 Christmas Cooks Challenge. 11.25 FILM: Black Beauty (1994). Family drama. 1.15 ITV News and Weather. 1.25 The Railway Children. 3.25 FILM: Mary Poppins (1964). Musical fantasy. 6.10 ITV News: Weather. 6.30 Emmerdale. Diane worries about Victoria's mental health. 7.00 Harry Hill's TV Burp Review of the Year. 7.30 Coronation Street. Maria gets desperate in her campaign to prove Tony murdered Liam. 8.00 You've Been Framed! 8.30 Coronation Street. Fizz and Audrey struggle to calm a hysterical Maria. 9.00 Caught in a Trap. Starring Connie Fisher as a woman who steals from work to fund her obsession with Elvis. 10.30 The News and Weather. 10.45 FILM: Nine Months (1995). A psychologist's world begins to fall apart when he discovers his girlfriend is pregnant. 12.45 Quantum of Solace: Planning Bond's Downfall and Other Stunts.	6.00 The Hoobs. 6.50 The Treacle People. 7.00 Famous Fred. 7.25 The Bear. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 T4: Friends. 9.25 T4: The Simpsons. 9.55 T4: Friends. 10.25 T4: Dave Berry's 20 Biggest Stars of 2008. 12.00 T4: Friends. 12.25 T4: George Michael: Live at Earls Court Exclusive. 12.35 Lost and Found. 1.05 Channel 4 Racing. 3.35 Come Dine with Me. 4.50 Deal or No Deal Christmas Star. 5.50 Holyoaks. 6.20 The Simpsons. 6.50 Channel 4 News. 7.00 A Time Team Special: The Mystery of the Roman Treasure. 8.00 FILM: Crocodile Dundee (1986). A larger-than-life Outback hero struggles in the urban jungle of New York. Comedy. 9.50 The IT Crowd. 10.20 Star Stories. 10.50 8 Out of 10 Cats Christmas Special. 11.40 Fonejacker Christmas Special. 12.15 4Music: George Michael: Live at Earls Court Exclusive.	6.00 Angels of Jarm. 6.10 Chiro. 6.15 Franny's Feet. 6.25 Fireman Sam. 6.40 The Beeps. 6.50 Milkshake! Music Box. 7.00 Bottle Top Bill. 7.10 Roary the Racing Car. 7.25 Little Princess. 7.40 Make Way for Noddy. 7.55 Thomas - Calling All Engines. 8.55 Milky and Shake Show. 9.00 Dinotopia. 10.50 Michaela's Zoo Babies. 11.50 Penguin Adventure. 12.20 Domino Day 2008. 1.25 FILM: It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World (1963). Comedy. 4.30 Little Princess. 5.00 Ronnie Barker's Comedy Heroes. 6.00 Rory and Paddy's Great British Adventure. The Pedal Car Grand Prix. Last in the series. 7.00 Ice Road Truckers. A lorry goes through the ice and the emergency services spring into action. 8.00 World's Strongest Man: 30 Years of Pain. 9.00 NCIS. Tony is accused of murder. 10.00 Greatest Ever 80s Movies. 12.45 30 Rock.

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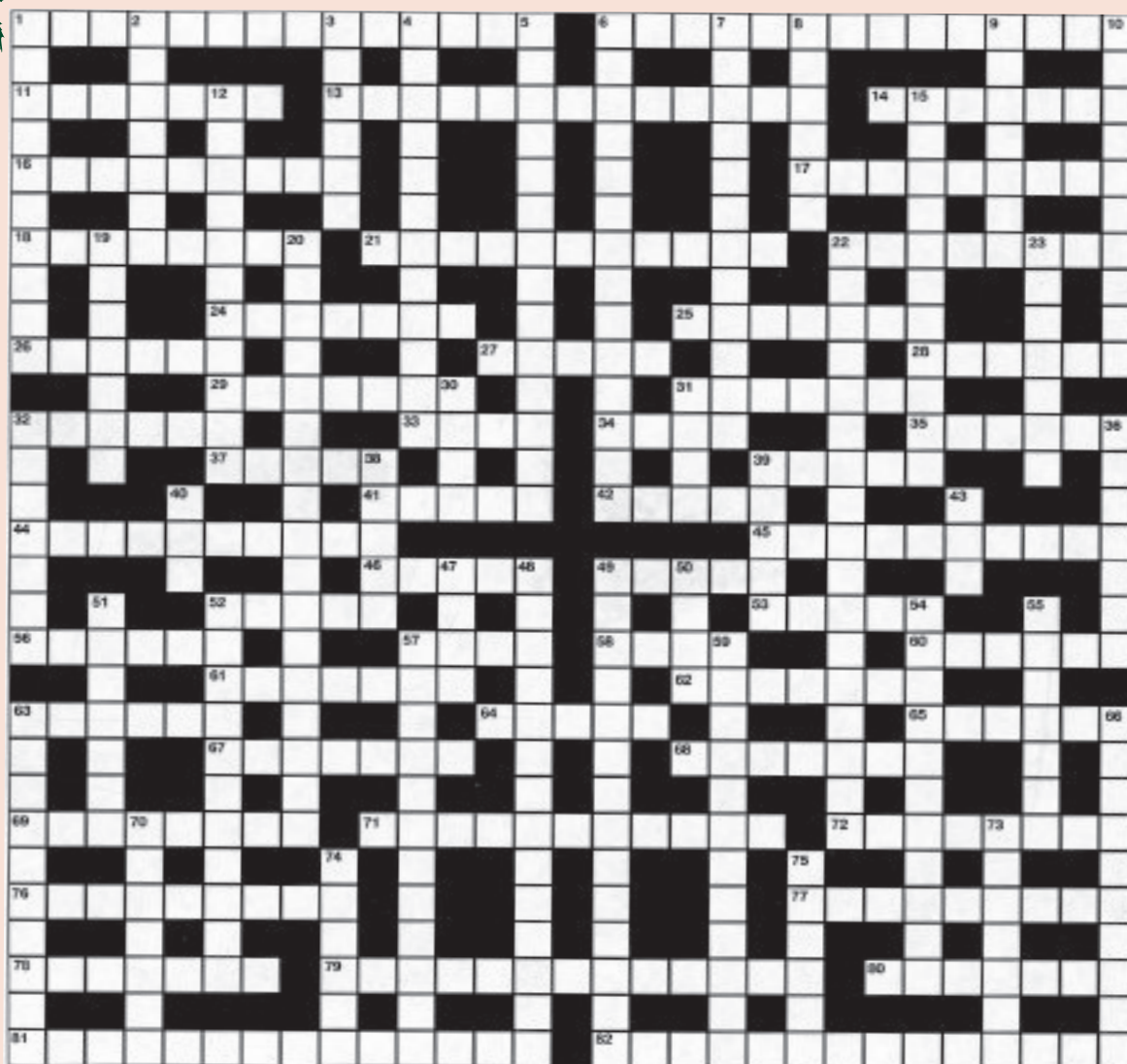
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CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



Across:

1. Cheery greeting for the Festive season. (5,9)
6. Number of vermin lacking vision, partly cut off by farmer's wife. (5,5,4)
11. Sourpuss can ruin happiness. (7)
13. Strange goings-on. But amusing commerce! (5,8)
14. Lit up, the class went ahead. (7)
16. Does it tell how high Santa is flying? (9)
17. The vehicle to encompass one's domain? (6,3)
18. Aimed at, by Robin Hood? (8)
21. I, finding due chaos, look the opposite of stately. (11)
22. Run faster than the clock? Act like a conductor. (4,4)
24. Explain – to former partner – our currency. (7)
25. Looks up to Sam Reid, eccentric. (7)
26. With difficulty, I'd made a jewelled headband. (6)
27. Avoid Dave returning to the East. (5)
28. Piper's son a lad – but she's a girl! (6)
29. It's boos, horrible for the wind musicians. (7)
31. To start with, carry your news to Heaven, including a name for Moon Goddess. (7)
32. Musical party? Maybe a wash and set. (6)

33. How Lear was made a peer. (4)
34. Competes with Elvis, wrongly losing line. (4)
35. Vehicle collects rubbish, including a vegetable. (6)
37. Poetically below, then a change. (5)
39. Bachelor to have need of jet. (5)
41. Each is always at end of May. (5)
42. Alter, with trouble afterwards. (5)
44. Girl, mother and I ran about for the love of Robin Hood. (4,6)
45. Sportingly, while acting excellent role... (2,4,4)
46. ...Provide food from dodgy crate. (5)
49. Can't play with these Marbles. The Greeks want them back. (5)
52. Oriental is with us, rejected by this girl. (5)
53. In Scotland cry Welcomel (5)
56. Some joker mitigates the appearance of a Muppet. (6)
57. Hit hard at second piece of wood. (4)
58. Strange garb to get hold of. (4)
60. Fashionable friend becomes prisoner. (6)
61. Appeared at a right horrible drive! (7)
62. Argued formally about Club in action. (7)
63. Little pet in comfortable position? (6)
64. Football togs? Take them all off! (5)
65. Girl's toy at work on untidy

- helping of food. (6)
67. 'e illuminated first, tolerating only the very best. (7)
68. Eastern sea-bird by a lake looks like lasting for ever. (7)
69. Rages die out, even if you differ in opinion. (8)
71. May be many-coloured, like Joseph's, but is put on wet. (4,2,5)
72. Diving ducks, with presumably cutting beaks? (8)
76. Is Get Cool to be translated by this Green expert? (9)
77. Did Mowgli have many of these wild females around him? (9)
78. Pegs to stop up casks and toss wildly over pig. (7)
79. Unquestionable evidence, for or against, (on strength of alcohol?). (8,5)
80. Is one King returning as a countryman? (7)
81. Pub's full up! Words to greet Joseph and Mary. (2,4,2,3,3)
82. TV programme reminding you what you did in the past. (4,2,4,4)

Down:

1. Construct a platform – and defend it. (4,1,5)
2. Spinning from too much to drink. (7)
3. Not very strong amongst company. (6)
4. X amount of weight with letter is

- paper money. (3-5,4)
5. Brotherly antagonism, say, as between Tweedledum and Tweedledee. (7,7)
6. This Ozzie Island marsupial sounds fiendish. (9,5)
7. Yes, Davy, we ref differently, not often, but regularly. (5,3,4)
8. One entertains in the streets, coach and part of 56. (6)
9. The most crazy would break stem around tot. (7)
10. Is country wine made from the more mature fruit? (10)
12. Really happy, like the cow that jumped? (4,3,4)
15. Hard for seamstress to find a needle here. (2,1,8)
19. Looking royal and first class, turning up with insignia of dignitaries. (7)
20. Does one have to be tactful, working here. (10,7)
22. Cards bring messages such as 1 ac., but for another Anniversary. (8,9)
23. Solid reason for the sinking of The Titanic. (7)
30. Rescue the poor broken vase. (4)
31. Coin's not worth much – start to classify ten roughly. (4)
32. Bad actor to jeer at swinging bed. (7)
36. Sailor after sailor goes east for Sauce. (7)
38. From here, layer should be put on church. (5)
39. Fetch a black hoop. (5)

40. One parliamentarian is a little devil. (3)
43. Poem inspired by confused doe. (3)
47. Disclosed to heartless lord. (4)
48. Reversal of marchers' direction – correct respecting spin? (5,5,4)
49. We as a nation long-suffering? In the film she needed treatment. (7,7)
50. Happy as a good boy. (4)
51. Stumbles over mostly uneven camera stands. (7)
52. Terror from acting in theatre – even in panto? (5,6)
54. A bit squiffy, shuts one eye to play this? (6,5)
55. Dance on spilled oil at this Oxford College. (7)
57. Indispensable for the gourmet to appreciate good food. (5,2,5)
59. Where to wager – across the counters – and buy good luck? (7,5)
63. Naval hero, with a hold in his name. (4,6)
66. Claiming everything as one's own, letting nothing go in this case. (10)
70. Everything ogre ruined, briskly played in this music. (7)
73. Put in place where Baby Jesus was born. (7)
74. Finally, where the shoe maker stood. (2,4)
75. Pretends one's got good poker hands, on the headlands. (6)



last, 75 Bluffs.
Install, 74 At
Allegro, 73
Possessive, 70
Nelson, 66
shops, 63 Lord
59 Betting
Sense of taste,
55 Balliol, 57
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Iceberg, 30
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Diplomatic
19 Regalia, 20
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moon, 15 in a
12 Over the
10 Elderberry,
Maddest,
Busker, 9
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Devil, 7 Every
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pound note, 5
Infirm, 4 Ten-
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Down: 1 Make
Your Life
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35 Carrot,
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33 Earl,
32 Haridop,
31 Cynthia,
29 Obolists,
28 Tomboy,
27 Evade,
26 Diadem,
25 Admires,
24 Expound,
22 Beat time,
21 Undignified,
18 Targeted,
17 Estate car,
16 Altimeter,
14 Kindled,
business,
13 Funny
Mice, 11 Killjoy,
Christmas,
1 Merry

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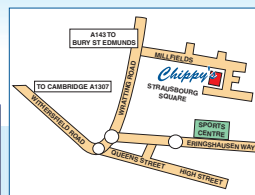
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SOME people are never satisfied. It wasn't so long ago that making a sporty hatchback was simple: you lopped the rear doors off, changed the badge and ta-da! A car that's largely the same as its five-door brother but that has greater appeal for the young of heart and the small of family.

But that's not enough these days. Any manufacturer brave enough to offer a simple three-door will find themselves ignored by the fashionistas in favour of a coupe. The big firms are spending a surprising amount of cash turning their humble hatches into something much racier, and to that burgeoning list you can add the Seat Ibiza SC.

The five-door Ibiza is hardly dull, with the kind of edgy design that's become a Seat trademark, but the SC goes one further with a lower roofline and a heavily sculpted rear. It certainly lives up to its sporty tag, especially on the optional 17-inch alloy wheels, and the inevitably young target audience will love it.

Step inside and the cabin is less dramatic but still has a strong appeal. The materials are of much better quality than before, and although the predominate

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passes test

Matt Joy



colours are grey and black, it's a pleasant place to be. The centre console is particularly smart, with red illumination bringing a sporty, high quality feel. The three-spoke steering wheel puts you in the mood for enthusiastic driving, while the standard sports seats improve the driving position and offer improved support.

With a lower roofline there is the inevitable cost of reduced rear headroom, though that doesn't mean the Ibiza SC can't handle adults in the rear. Taller ones will want to be up front of course, but you can still load it up with friends for a night out without having to visit a chiropractor on the way home. What's more, there's still 284 litres of boot space out the back.

Right now there are three engine options available, all petrol: a 1.2-litre three cylinder, plus 1.4-litre and 1.6-litre four cylinder units. The 1.4-litre is likely to be the most popular, offering a decent compromise

Ibiza SC comes out to play



between economy and power. All three engines offer more than 40mpg and the insurance-friendly smaller units will be a winner with the young audience.

Go for the range-topping Sport trim and as well as alloy wheels, leather on the wheel and gearknob and sports seats, it also gains stiffer suspension. As a result, body roll is reduced and

the SC's handling is notably more controlled, although this comes at the price of slightly reduced ride comfort. For those who want the sporty feel there's no contest, but the softer SE model is almost as much fun while offering more comfort on poorer roads. Either way, the Ibiza SC is a fun machine, with responsive steering and plenty of grip.

With a sensible head on you should probably go for the five-door Ibiza. It costs a little more, but you get the practicality of the extra doors and a little more rear headroom. But who on earth wants to be sensible? If your life allows you the luxury of only having three doors on your car then the Ibiza SC is going to be right up your street.

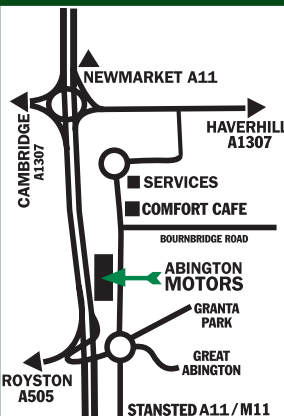
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GIVE YOUR CAR A WINTER WORKOUT WITH THE RMIF

The onset of winter can be bad news for motorists. Little light, bad weather and worse roads conspire to make driving tiring, unpleasant, and sometimes even dangerous.

Every journey is an opportunity to prevent the worst from happening, and there is a great deal of preventative action that you can undertake yourself.

Before setting off:

make sure that the car has enough fuel
let someone know your intended movements
listen to traffic news and weather forecasts, and wear warm clothing.

Naturally, the need for seasonal preparation also extends to the various systems that run the car, so make sure that the anti-freeze in the car is fresh. Insufficient or 'old' anti-freeze can cause hose, water pump or other major units to fail leading to overheating. Anti-freeze should be changed every two years due to the deterioration of the corrosion inhibitors, or according to manufacturer recommendations.

Other things to do include:

make sure the battery is in good condition
on cold mornings use a de-icer on windows, or a scraper - NEVER hot water
check that the screen wash is not clogged and that the bottle is topped up for use, and

make sure that an additive is used to stop it freezing
check windscreen wipers for wear and replace them if necessary
make sure that all heaters and ventilation systems are working so that misting is minimised
give all external lights and mirrors a thorough clean
headlamps should be correctly aligned
the tread depth should be at least 1.6mm across the central three-quarters of the breadth of the tread and around the entire circumference, and there should be no cuts or cracks
spray damp inhibitor into the door locks to prevent seizing up.

Once the car is ready for winter, you should make sure it is carrying emergency equipment so that, if the worst happens, you are ready too.

Useful supplies could include: torch, spare batteries and bulbs, screen scraper / de-icer, jump leads, warning triangle, first-aid kit, 'hands free' mobile phone / phone card / cash, blankets and warm jacket / robust shoes (in case of breakdown), shovel (to clear snow if necessary), fire extinguisher, rope (for towing if necessary), road atlas, maps etc.

Essentially, safety in the winter comes down to four things: 1 Check your car. 2. Be prepared for anything. 3. Be cautious. 4. Monitor your speed.

If you try to follow these rules you should find yourself on the road to safe winter driving. To make sure your car is ready for the road in the first place, book your car in for a service. Careful preparation by the motorist can only go so far.

To find a reliable garage, motorists should look to the RMIF.

A member will be able to advise you on the type of service you need, and will be able to point out potential problem areas before they arise, or become serious. In fact, whether you want to buy or sell a new or used car or motorcycle, service or repair your existing vehicle, find an auction house, or a cherished number plate dealer, the RMIF will be able to help you.

If you have a complaint against an RMIF member garage, the RMIF's National Conciliation Service should be able to help you get redress, if the problem cannot be solved in direct consultation with that member.

To find a garage that is a member of the RMIF, visit www.rmif.co.uk and use the 'Find a Service' function. You will also find details of RMIF members that sell new and used cars or motorcycles, provide vehicle servicing and repair, and sell petrol.

Motorists can also use the RMIF Consumer Motoline - **08457 58 53 50**

This will enable you to find all RMIF members mentioned above, and in addition vehicle auctioneers and cherished number plate dealers.

Acorn of Abington

Cambridge Road, Little Abington.

Tel: 01223 893100

Autokare Cambridge

Unit A 20 Mercers Row

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Tel: 01223 363030 Fax: 01223 361136

www.autokare-cambridge.com

Bar Hill Motors

Unit 10, Viking Way, Bar Hill, Cambridge.

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barhill.motors@virgin.net

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Tel: 01223 425600

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Tel: 01223 832412

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RUSTY fair maiden 45, seeks Knight in shining armour with oil can for life laughs, loyalty and love. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 325570

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38YR old female, 5ft, brown hair/eyes, medium build, likes nights in/out, cinema, pubs, seeks N/S, clean shaven male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 266986

YOUNG looking, early 50's lady, red hair, likes drama, cinema, walks, seeks tall, intelligent, kind, sensitive male with similar interests. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 321176

FEMALE with mobility scooter, likes fishing, meals out, seeks honest, similar male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 318244

TALL 33yr old single mum, likes dancing, seeks N/S male, 34-45 with GSOH for friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 308074

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GENUINE attractive female, mid 50's, likes dancing, meals out, cinema, seeks similar gent. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 306947

40YR old female, GSOH, seeks male, 40 plus with GSOH and a smoker. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 305953

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FEMALE 5ft 6ins, brown hair, green eyes, slim-medium build, loves motorbikes, horses, seeks biker, 28-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 302525

SLIM attractive, caring female, mid 30's, seeks intelligent, kind, funny male for friendship, maybe romance. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 301918

WENDY early 40's, dark hair, likes dancing, music, socialising, walks, cycling, nights in, seeks special male, 35-55 with young outlook. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 301647

ATTRACTIVE black beauty, 37, honest, loving, caring, likes theatre, cinema, walks, meals out, travel, seeks decent white gent, under 45 with no ties for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 301053

MID 50's female, seeks male, 48-58 who is honest, caring and fun. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 232666

ATTRACTIVE blonde female, 40's, affectionate, no ties, likes cuddles, seeks intelligent male, 38-55 for loving relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 300975

FEMALE blonde hair, likes travel, cooking, music, astrology, seeks N/S male, 48-50 for romantic soul mate, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 300613

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GENUINE female, 42, slim, N/S, loyal, kind, animal lover, tattooed, pierced, likes nights in/out, seeks genuine male. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 335634

PROFESSIONAL black female, no ties, likes meals out, seeks solvent, fun loving male for kisses, cuddles and maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 335564

42YR old black female, single mum, 5ft 5ins, medium build, likes sports, tv, nights in, seeks male, 38-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 329430

CHRISTIAN female, 47, single mum, size 10, blonde hair, green eyes, likes meals out, theatre, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 326460

WIDOW 60, young outlook, size 10-12, 4ft 11ins, dark hair, N/S, OHAC, seeks male for friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 325488

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ATTRACTIVE independent lady, 5ft 3ins, medium build, blonde, seeks honest, genuine male for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 347052

47YR old female, 5ft 6ins, brown hair, blue eyes, likes nights in/out, seeks N/S male, 40-55. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 350176

LESLEY 34, likes music, nights out, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 345370

DIVORCED mum, late 40's, easygoing, likes nights in, seeks male for a loving relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 344188

BUBBLY female, 33, brown hair, hazel eyes, seeks male, 29-35 for romance and more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 264378

BLACK single mum, 30, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 343776

YOUTHFUL 43yr old female, tall, attractive, seeks professional male of similar age for friendship and good times. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 343224

LYN 59, widow, strawberry blonde hair, green eyes, 5ft 8ins, GSOH, likes cat boots, music, films, nights out, seeks smart male with GSOH. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 342286

FEMALE seeks male for serious relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 322956

ATTRACTIVE female, 52, blonde hair, green eyes, cuddly, GSOH, seeks tall male with GSOH. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 341216

42YR old single biker lady, trustworthy, kind, caring, seeks similar gent, 38-45 for romance and fun. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 340944

ATTRACTIVE lady, divorced, slim, GSOH, kind, caring, seeks gent, 60's to be that special person. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 339554

VAL 60, 5ft 4ins, brown hair, likes dancing, walks, music, reading, seeks likeminded male. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 336322

GENUINE female, 42, slim, N/S, loyal, kind, animal lover, tattooed, pierced, likes nights in/out, seeks genuine male. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 335634

PROFESSIONAL black female, no ties, likes meals out, seeks solvent, fun loving male for kisses, cuddles and maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 335564

42YR old black female, single mum, 5ft 5ins, medium build, likes sports, tv, nights in, seeks male, 38-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 329430

CHRISTIAN female, 47, single mum, size 10, blonde hair, green eyes, likes meals out, theatre, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 326460

WIDOW 60, young outlook, size 10-12, 4ft 11ins, dark hair, N/S, OHAC, seeks male for friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 325488

LADY early 60's, tall, smart, semi retired, own car, likes cooking, gardening, seeks tall, kind gent for companionship, outings, possible relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 323968

FEMALE seeks honest, caring, genuine male, 50-60's for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 318510

MEN ads

LOOKING TO MEET or CHAT to someone, look no further. Call 0906 781 1348 or text DATE209 to 88300.

50YR old male, 5ft 11ins, blue eyes, average build, smart, romantic, easygoing, N/S, seeks feminine female, 35-50 to share life with. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 352042

JASON 22, fun, bubbly, likes nights out, socialising, sports, seeks female for fun nights in and out. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 307411

YOUNG attractive 26yr old male, charming, likes reading, films, seeks happy, funny female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 307517

TERRY 43, honest, caring, kind, likes meals out, animals, concert, cinema, seeks loving female, 29-47 with similar interests for relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 307483

SINGLE male, 37, seeks female with GSOH to treat like a lady. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 307461

BLACK male, mid 50's, romantic, passionate, kind, caring, seeks female, ant age for fun, friendship and romance. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 343910

DAMAGED but not broken, single dad, 42, going on 22, still looking for fairytale, want to feel wanted again? Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 347358

AVERAGE easygoing male, 38, seeks average, easygoing female, 30-40 for fun, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 306429

MALE 59, 6ft, seeks female of similar age for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 350886

COLIN 62, seeks loving, warm female for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 352006

YOUNG at heart 59yr old widower, 6ft 1ins, slim, dark hair, likes sports, music, meals out, travel, seeks brunette, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 351722

MALE 68, active, widower, GSOH, likes meals out, days out, seeks female for friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 350702

33YR attractive male, bodybuilder/hairdresser, seeks attractive female, 28-38. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 305861

LIFE'S too short. Male 48, medium build, warm, caring, seeks female for fun, friendship and romance. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 350558

PAUL 50's, medium build, 5ft 5ins, easygoing, likes cooking, nights in/out, dancing, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 350388

MALE 43, slim, fit, GSOH, likes motorbikes, music, travel, cooking, meals out, seeks female with GSOH for fun, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 348722

ATTRACTIVE male, 37, seeks attractive female, 20-45 for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 348570

MALE 68, kind, caring, loving, likes countryside, drives, seeks female, any age for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 320176

ATTRACTIVE professional male, 40, 6ft, fair hair, blue eyes, seeks attractive female of similar age for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 346572

ARE you single, lonely and seeking someone special? Me too. N/S male, OHAC, seeks 40-50's lady for friendship, sharing, caring, loving times. Tel No: 0905 436 0408 Box No: 351198

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SPORT



Thursday, December 25, 2008

Email all your sports stories and pictures to haverhillsport@cambridge-news.co.uk

RUGBY UNION

Bergin's troops do just enough

Haverhill 17 Hadleigh 12

EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE, DIVISION TWO

HAVERHILL ended their 2008 Eastern Counties League, Division Two fixtures on a winning note when they entertained Hadleigh on Saturday.

However, skipper Paul Bergin felt his team made a mountain out of a molehill before eventually overcame their struggling opponents 17-12.

The captain saw his side fall behind in the opening stages, but Martin Ransome drove over following a rolling maul to make it 7-7 at the interval.

Hadleigh regained the advantage early in the second half with their second try of the afternoon, before Simon Potter went in under the posts to restore parity once more.

And Ryan Raffell got the crucial five-pointer in the final few minutes to give Haverhill their fourth league success of the season.

Bergin said: "It was a tough game and we were fairly dominant in the scrums and the line-outs, and we were pleased with the win."

"We made hard work of it and on a better day we would have had more tries, but it can be the sign of a good team when you win having not played that well."

■ Haverhill return to action after the festive break when they entertain Swaffham at the Castle Playing Field on Saturday, January 10.



■ TRY-SCORER... Martin Ransome, who grabbed Haverhill's first try in their victory over Hadleigh on Saturday.

FOOTBALL: LATEST NEWS FROM HAMLET CROFT

Plucky Haverhill keep battling away



■ SCORER... Rovers' Paul Heller.

THERE were plenty of positives for Haverhill boss Peter Betts to take from this see-saw of a Ridgeons League, Premier Division match – except the result. Rock-bottom Rovers started brightly and should have been comfortably ahead by half time. But, after a goalless first half, they were made to suffer when Tiptree scored three times in a frenetic 15-minute spell. Haverhill clawed their way back into the game through Martin Westcott, who had a goal wiped out for offside in the first half, and a strike from Paul Heller, who was also extremely unlucky to

Tiptree United 3 Haverhill Rovers 2

RIDGEONS LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION

see another effort rebound off a post. However, manager Betts can take heart from Rovers' performance and will be looking for better luck when his team welcome the youngsters of Cambridge Regional College to Hamlet Croft on Saturday. The students are currently lying fifth in the table and will pose a tough test for Haverhill, who badly need to start picking up points if they are to climb away from the relegation places.

HOW THEY STAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lowestoft Town	19	15	3	1	53	19	48
Dereham Town	22	13	3	6	62	41	42
Leiston	14	12	1	1	53	8	37
Kirkley & Pakefield	20	11	4	5	41	25	37
CRC	19	10	4	5	38	29	34
Wroxham	19	10	3	6	41	27	33
Mildenhall Tn	18	10	2	6	44	34	32
Needham Mkt	18	10	2	6	39	33	32
Walsham Le Willows	23	8	7	7	39	33	32
Wivenhoe	19	10	1	8	51	40	31
Tiptree Utd	17	9	3	5	37	30	30
Stanway Rovers	20	7	4	9	44	42	25
Histon res	19	7	4	8	38	38	25
King's Lynn res	19	6	4	9	37	47	22
Felix & W Utd	22	7	1	14	39	59	22
Ely City	21	6	3	12	32	46	21
Harwich & Pktn	23	6	3	14	27	59	21
Whitton Utd	24	5	6	13	43	82	21
Woodbridge Tn	19	5	5	9	29	34	20
Wisbech Town	19	5	3	11	27	41	18
Norwich Utd	18	4	5	9	20	31	17
Haverhill Rovers	20	2	4	14	20	57	10

GOLF ROUND-UP

Fish hits form to grab win in medal event...

HAVERHILL Golf Club's Saturday medal round at Coupals Road was for the M Rayner Cup and was the last chance to qualify for the end-of-year presentation evening.

Conditions were not easy and many players stumbled along the way before Andrew Fish was declared the winner on countback after returning a nett score of 68.

Malcolm Klinge finished in second spot, while Terry Lyons was a further shot back in third place.

The leading scores were:

A Fish, M Klinge 68, T Lyons 69, W Penman, E Bareham 71, S Price, J Walker, S King 72, G Ashcroft, N Seve 73, P McLennan, K Ward, L Chandler, C Vince 74, D Cohen 75, J Davis, S Tatum 76, K Eldred, M Stuart, A Gelder 77, M Bennett 78, A Lord, G Price 79, M Macnamara, D Galloway, E Armstrong 80, B Jones 81, G Kennedy 82, R Peyton, S Piotrowski 84, D Harkness 89, J Fox 95, E Fairhead n/r.

■ The following day a maximum field played in Paul's Christmas Cracker, which was a four-ball, better-ball stableford, utilising a shotgun start. The event was organised by Haverhill club professional Paul Wilby, and during the post-match activities he raised, via a quickfire auction, several hundred pounds which will be added to club captain Terry Bishop's nominated charity, the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Overall winners of the competition were Scott Turner and Kevin Power (44), who were one point up on Terry Lyons and Dave Whiting.

The leading scores were: Turner/Power 44, Lyons/Whiting 43, Mary Sail/Carter, Baird/Kiddle 42, Wilkins/Pipe 41, Craig/Penman, G Price/Thomas, P McGarr/Harkness 39, Ward/Barnham, Sally Price/S Price 38.

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